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"The Most Widely Known Southern Newspaper."

1879. THE 1879.

ATLANTA DAILY CONSTITUTION.

We have few promises to make for the coming year. The year 1879, however, is a year of promise. It is a year of promise to the people of the South, and to the people of the North. It is a year of promise to the people of the South, and to the people of the North. It is a year of promise to the people of the South, and to the people of the North.

The managers will be pleased to receive from their friends, and from their subscribers, any and all suggestions for the improvement of the paper.

It prints all the news, both by mail and telegraph.

It is the only paper in the South that is published daily.

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the war he held the position of surgeon-general. He was one of the original republicans, but left the party at the time of the impeachment of Andrew Johnson, and has since been a democratic candidate for congress, and enjoyed other honors at his hands. He has served his native city as alderman and mayor, and as a business man he stands high, and no one in the community where he resides possesses more of the confidence of his fellow-citizens as a plain, practical, sagacious every-day man.

Our early dispatches announce the serious illness of Mr. Stephens of neuralgia of the bowels, and the somewhat alarming statement is made that his condition is worse than it has been for years. It does not seem possible that the feeble frame of Mr. Stephens can sustain the shock of such a serious attack, but it is more than probable that the wonderful vitality of this remarkable man will enable him to overcome the disease; and there are thousands, not only in Georgia, but all over the country, who will join with us in hoping that the veteran statesman may be spared to his people yet a little while longer.

A Sample Row.

Angus is "big Steve," the fire-bell, has not yet received of its own accord, though the phenomenon is likely to occur at any moment—but the canal is swelling in its banks and lashing its receding shores with a fury never before known; one of the busts in the court-house has turned its affrighted face to the wall, picture frames have fallen to the floor and looking-glasses have cracked from top to bottom, and what Uncle Johnny Maund would call "chancy war" has rattled and shivered in the cupboard of many a perplexed housewife. The cows come up sooner to get milked and the prolific goats in the suburb of Dublin refuse to eat either the morning or the evening newspapers; and all honest men are not entitled to the samples. This was an awful disaster, and the excitement that has ensued could not be greater if the city had been attacked by a band of Pierced Noses under the lead of Sitting Bull in person. Colonel Gregg Wright, of the Chronicle, is excited, and his penitive features are overgrown with a deeper shade of melancholy. Colonel Patrick Walsh goes at his work with his coat off and his pants rolled up, and Randall, the poet-editor, is continually humming to himself the words of "Ca Ira." Pleasant Stovall, the nimble paragrapher, has gathered himself up like a grasshopper, ready to leap as soon as the alarm shall sound, and even Bill Moore is loitering carefully around the bell-tower, ready to scamper up empyrean heights when the war begins.

Meantime, the cotton buyers and sellers will have the samples, and the sellers who they want. It is a very pretty thing as it stands, and, to an outsider, it would appear to be quite an insignificant affair; but those, however, who know something of the ins and outs of the cotton trade, take quite a different view of the matter. The cotton samples, over which the Augusta buyers and sellers are kicking up such an unseemly rumpus, are very profitable little trinkets. The samples of one firm alone, during a busy season, have been known to amount to a large number of bales of cotton, and this is all clear profit, especially if the samples go to the buyer.

At last accounts there was no let-up to the dearth. The sellers claim the samples because they are not weighed with the bales, and the buyers claim them as matter of right, protection and custom. The latter have formed themselves into a sort of association and have pledged themselves not to purchase cotton in the Augusta market, either directly or indirectly, by contract or by sample, with the delivery of the selling samples as heretofore, until the report of the committee appointed to meet the cotton sellers has been received. Thus the matter stands and thus the canal continues to lash its mud-bank banks. We trust the matter will be settled before the thaw has lost its benign influence.

Our Geological Department.

In a hurry to get through the legislature, it is known, postponed much of its important business until the adjournment session in July next. Such direction was necessary as regards views of the matter before it, and immaterial as regards a portion of it. There was one omission to act, however, which was most unfortunate for the state, and sad in its consequences to a most able, worthy, and faithful corps of the state's officials. We allude to the postponement of action on the bill to extend the act of 1873 creating the geological department, and appropriating money for the support of the same.

We do not propose to go into a lengthy discussion of the claims of this department to public consideration and support; they are well understood by every intelligent Georgian, as well as the immense material advantages which the state has already realized from even a partial development of her hidden wealth, to say nothing of the grand results to be anticipated in the future from a complete survey and report of her immense and varied resources. We shall, however, glance at some of the effects of this failure to act, and submit them for the consideration of those who feel a real interest in the welfare of the state:

1. It closes the geological office and puts a stop to future surveys when the state has been only half gone over.
2. It suspends the preparation of the general report on the geology of Georgia, a magnificent and handsomely illustrated work now in course of preparation, and which is destined, if completed, to shed lustre on our state.
3. A large topographical and geological map of the state, the finest and most accurate that has ever appeared, is about two-thirds finished, but must be rolled up and laid away in the dust and rubbish of the department.
4. All official and reliable sources of information touching the mines, minerals, soils and water-powers of the state, now daily called for, are cut off, and at a juncture when such information is most needed and called for by the capitalists of the world. No man comes to Georgia, or sends his money here, to invest in mineral lands, without first consulting the state geologist as to the only well informed and disinterested authority on the subject. There is hardly a day that some non-resident does not call at his office for such information, and his correspondence with residents of other states is enormous. At all very times, the mountain region is full of explorers, with a view to investments, but when they call at the capital of the state for information that will be

indispensable to a purchase, they will find the office of the geologist closed, and away dissatisfied.

Lastly, it works serious hardship upon Dr. Little and his five assistants, most of whom have abandoned good engagements to enlist in the service of the state, with the very reasonable expectation that they would not commit the folly of abandoning when half-finished, and when she is just beginning to reap a golden harvest from their intelligent labors. We repeat, and with emphasis, that it is hard on these well-educated and scientific experts to send them adrift in times like these to struggle for a precarious existence in the more ignoble walks of life.

We hazard nothing in saying that a better informed, more faithful and gentler corps of official workers were never collected together in the state. Many of them are unable, and all of them unwilling, to be idle for six months, and as most of them come from a distance, if once disbanded they will never be together again, while it would be most difficult to fill their places.

Such are a few of the unhappy results that are inevitable from the failure of the legislature to continue the act of 1873 in operation—results which we are loath to believe they considered with anything like the grave attention that was due them. The governor is powerless, as is the superabundance of their caution the legislature actually restricted him from the disbursement of the contingent fund. The remedy for this shame upon the state is with the people, with the Georgia people, and state pride who are dwelling on their state's backwardness in the march of civilization. Cannot we speak, isn't it about time for the south to desist? But, then, the south always has been a backward people.

The revived rumor that Whitelaw Reid, the gay and gallant, is about to lead the charming Miss Anna E. Dickinson to the altar, sends a tandem team of cold chills galloping up our educated spines.

As for the amendments! Can't the republicans dig down a little deeper? Can't they exhume the remains of John Brown, as we were?

Senators are said to give Edmunds a wide berth when he comes to make a remark. He is a man of no account, and is breaking a suspender. We are quite sorry for the old man, but we cannot find it in our hearts to lay any blame upon the suspender.

While the Tell committee are attending quadron balls, Jim Rodolph is examining imaginary witnesses and revising the final report of the committee. Jim always was industrious.

The Tell committee didn't stop long enough in Atlanta to interview any of our leading democratic negroes.

VIOLIN is rapidly coming to the conclusion that her interests require the establishment of state banks, and this is the conclusion to which all the southern states will arrive. Under proper restrictions, Georgia needs a local currency with which to transact her local business, and until we have a currency, we are not doing much business.

Why should the editors of the stalwart organs persist in gnawing a file? The file is bound to get the best of it in the long run.

POSTSCRIPT.

CONSCIENCE has resumed and we are waiting to hear "drum."

STANLEY MATTHEWS has been in Memphis. He did not prevail as an epidemic, however.

BEVERLY DOUGLASS left his children life insurance to elect one United States senator, but nearly one thousand magistrates for the term of six years. There are in the state of Georgia, according to the census, with twenty-eight hundred and sixteen magistrates, and the term of office expires in 1880.

Some time ago the New Orleans Times offered a prize for the best poem by a southern writer, expressing the gratitude of the south to the people of the North for their generosity during the yellow fever epidemic of 1878. The prize has been awarded to Mr. J. M. Carter, of New Orleans, whose poem is entitled "Andromeda Unchained."

The personal estate of the late Thomas M. Powers that he had advanced some forty thousand dollars to build reformed Episcopal churches in various parts of the country, from Nova Scotia to Florida, in addition to the large sums which he gave outright, and excluding all of his bounty to the church on West Chestnut street. The new organization has suffered a severe loss in his death.

The stock list of the Tribune has extended to the 100th number, and the paper has been re-named its old star performer—E. V. Smalley.

"ADY" PORTER was at the white house reception, but refrained from using the merits of his new dress upon the attention of the amiable Rodgers.

A LETTER from the Hon. Emory Speer brings the pleasing intelligence that his wife is recovering from her illness.

EDWARD P. CLARK, who has managed the Springfield Republican with such signal ability, is about to join the staff of the Philadelphia Times. The Times is congratulated upon this gain.

UNCLE REMUS and HIS TROUBLES.

"What makes you look so lonesome, Brer Remus?" asked a well-dressed negro, as the old Uncle Remus, dressed in the street by James' corner yesterday.

"Youer mighty right. I'm lonesome, Brer John Henry. I'm a nigger like me is gadder padder."

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IN GENERAL.

The mercury and zero have pooled their issues.

The cathedral at Bristol, England, is lighted by the electrophore.

—Oliver Logan weighs 190 pounds, has gray hair and a double chin.

The new fashions are made of fine wire, delicately painted by hand.

—Yakob Khan has more generals in his army than paymasters.

—Sunstruck by the frost is what St. Louis calls being frozen to death.—Philadelphia Chronicle-Herald.

—Mr. Henry Varley, the Evangelist, has decided to take up his permanent residence in Melbourne, Australia.

—Don't ride a mule unless you want to place one foot in the grave and the other in the United States senate.—Whitehall Times.

The Richmond, General Grant's vessel, is fitted with a new steam launch. It will be handy, but not near so impressive as a launch with trim, ornate rigging.

It is inferred from the heroism with which Spartan women used to encourage their husbands to go forth to battle that they looked well in black.

The Providence Star says the oldest and wealthiest families in Providence live in the most modest manner, and like people who have to earn their living.

COTTON AND WEATHER.

Cotton, middling upland, closed in Liverpool yesterday at 5 1/2; in New York at 7 1/2; in Atlanta at 7 1/2.

The Signal Service Bureau report indicates for tomorrow, in Georgia, falling barometer, warmer southerly winds, cloudy weather, and possibly rain.

Daily Weather Report.
OVERSEAS OFFICE, SIGNAL CORPS, U. S. A.,
Kearney House, January 7, 10:31 P. M.
[All observations taken at the same moment of actual time.]

NAME OF STATION	Latitude	Longitude	Barometer	Thermometer	Wind	Weather
Atlanta	33° 42' N.	84° 22' W.	30.00	42	S.W.	Cloudy
Augusta	33° 24' N.	82° 00' W.	30.00	42	S.W.	Cloudy
Savannah	32° 05' N.	81° 05' W.	30.00	42	S.W.	Cloudy
Key West	24° 33' N.	81° 48' W.	30.00	42	S.W.	Cloudy
New Orleans	29° 55' N.	90° 05' W.	30.00	42	S.W.	Cloudy
Mobile	30° 10' N.	88° 05' W.	30.00	42	S.W.	Cloudy
San Francisco	37° 47' N.	122° 29' W.	30.00	42	S.W.	Cloudy
San Pedro de Macoris	18° 30' N.	70° 30' W.	30.00	42	S.W.	Cloudy

Local Weather Report.

ATLANTA, GA., January 7, 1879.

Time	Bar.	Ther.	Dir.	Wind	Weather
7 A. M.	30.00	42	S.W.	Light	Cloudy
11 A. M.	30.00	42	S.W.	Light	Cloudy
3 P. M.	30.00	42	S.W.	Light	Cloudy
7 P. M.	30.00	42	S.W.	Light	Cloudy
Mean daily	30.00	42	S.W.	Light	Cloudy
Mean daily	30.00	42	S.W.	Light	Cloudy
Mean daily	30.00	42	S.W.	Light	Cloudy

Georgio H. Rose, Signal Corps, U. S. A.

PREFERRED LOCALS.

GRAIG & CO.,

WHOLESALE AGENTS

FOR THE

"DOMESTIC"

THE ONLY

SEWING MACHINE

ever sold that fully meets the requirements

(complete guarantee).

Laboratory to Merchants.

Write for Circulars.

45 Whitehall street, ATLANTA, GA.

109 Main St. Atlanta, Ga.

French, German, Japanese, plain

and decorated China, Earthen,

Glass and Plated Ware, Lamps,

Cutlery, not to be excelled in price,

quality or quantity, at

HENRY SELTZER'S.

96 West 17th St.

Alex. Fox, Optician,

39 Whitehall Street.

115 Jan 7 d

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

(See Second Page.)

Howe's or other - 10, G. Holland.

Florida Excursion - 1, T. Morgan.

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AS TO THE ROAD ITSELF.

The Northernmost Pushing its Way

Bravely Forward.

General W. M. Phillips and Colonel R. F.

Madrox were encountered in the reception

room of the governor by a reporter of The

CONSTITUTION. The story of the press

anger was out in the twinkling of an eye.

"Why this duplex thrust?" inquired

the reporter.

"We are here to draw a part of the

convict fund for the Marietta and North

Georgia railroad," replied the general.

"How is that?"

"Well, we are allowed that

by an act of the legislature to further the

completion of the railroad.

"How much does the 1878 fund amount

to?"

"It reaches something over \$14,000, but

we are not drawing the entire amount—we

are getting to-day only a portion of it."

THEY WERE CONVICTS.

"Don't you work convicts, too?"

"Yes, we have one man now who is

employed on the road about sixty-five

cents a day, and he is a convict."

"How do you get along with your

convicts?"

"The best in the world. They

were out of the world, and they

have had very little sickness. In fact,

at the time the legislative sub-committee

visited our camp they saw seventy

hundred men, and we have one man now who

is badly diseased and can hardly live. He is

perfectly useless."

"Do you find their labor profitable in the

prosecution of your work?"

"Certainly, we do. It is the only labor

by which we could have carried the road

forward."

THAT CONVICT ENGINEER.

"How is it about that report that you

have discharged the convict Thompson and

put him on a convict in his place?"

"Yes, we have done that."

"Why?"

"It was a pure question of economy to us.

We had no complaint against him, and no

fault to find with him, but we were paying

him \$10 per month, and we had a good

engineer among the convicts who was

employed for nothing. That is why the

change was made."

"Who was the convict you placed upon

the engine?"

"His name is R. M. C. Moore, who was

convicted of involuntary manslaughter in Cobb

superior court, and sentenced for two years.

His time is nearly expired, and he has

family living in Cobb county, and is an old

and experienced engineer."

THE WORK GOING ON.

In response to an inquiry concerning the

progress of the road, Phillips said:

"We are going to the work of laying

iron and getting the road. The iron is

now on the road, and we are laying it

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